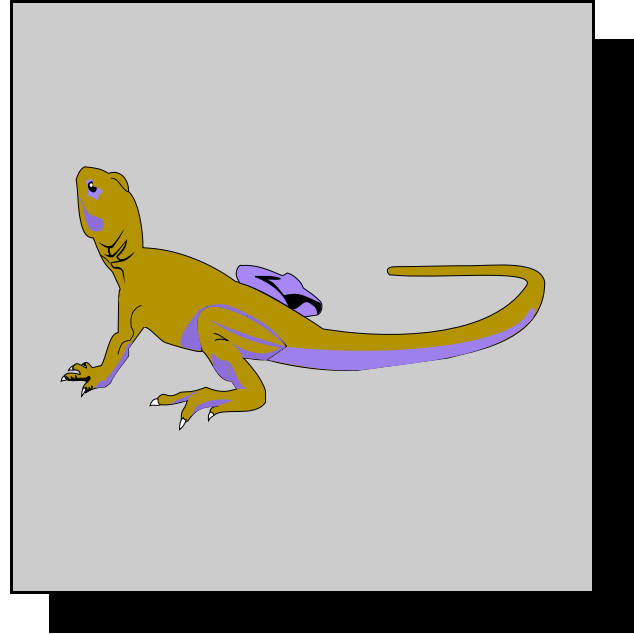


CHAPTER 4

General Management Goals



I. General Management Goals

The main thrust of this plan will be to manage the RCBR ecosystem using a benefits based management approach. The BLM and our interested publics will strive to protect and restore this native ecosystem not only for the value of the ecosystem itself, but as a more practical means of managing land and water for other values such as species preservation, biodiversity, clean water and economic stability. The BLM and its partners must work to achieve this not only on the public lands but in the Grand Valley as a whole.

The following are the general management goals for the Ruby Canyon/Black Ridge Planning Area:

1. Manage the ecosystem to achieve targeted individual, social, economic and environmental benefits.
2. Manage to deliver benefits by maintaining opportunities for visitors to engage in a diversity of targeted activities in a variety of settings.
3. Maintain and enhance partnerships with other land managing agencies, user groups, community and tourism organizations to help maintain the health of the ecosystem and to provide on-site opportunities for RCBR visitors to realize desired experiences and benefits.
4. Manage the historical, cultural and paleontological resources in the ecosystem for scientific information, education, public values and conservation.

5. Manage the Black Ridge Canyons WSA to protect wilderness values.
6. Continue to acquire lands within the ecosystem to provide for better natural resource and public use management, and to eliminate incompatible land uses on private land inholdings.
7. Attain diverse habitats (forage, cover, water) and functioning watersheds by enhancing the ecological processes to achieve the desired plant communities, improve water quality and reduce soil erosion.
8. Provide for a rural environment that contributes to a sustainable economy in harmony with ecological and environmental health.
9. Educate the public on management actions and their desired effect on ecological processes.
10. Provide an aesthetically pleasing landscape which is compatible with the diverse uses.
11. Protect, promote and enhance native wildlife, rare plants and their habitats on an opportunity basis, yet in priority order from globally, to nationally rare species, to locally popular species.
12. Consistently present archaeological, wildlife, and rare plant information in the ecoregional context, i.e., the Great Basin/ Intermountain Desert and the Colorado Plateau.